

20 January 2021



Report from the Cabinet

Purpose of the Report

To provide information to the Council on issues considered by the Cabinet at the meeting held on 16 December 2020 to enable Members to ask related questions.

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December 2020

- Item 1 County Durham Plan: Minerals and Waste Development Plan Document and Parking and Accessibility Supplementary Planning Document
[Key Decision: REG/04/20]
- Item 2 Transport Asset Management Plan – Annual Update

1. **County Durham Plan: Minerals and Waste Development Plan Document and Parking and Accessibility Supplementary Planning Document [Key Decision: REG/04/20]**
Cabinet Portfolio Holder – Cllr Carl Marshall
Contact - Mike Allum 03000 261 906

We considered a report of the Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy and Growth which sought approval to commence work on the Minerals and Waste Policies and Allocations Development Plan Document and the Parking and Accessibility Supplementary Planning Document together with the timetable for their preparation in a new Local Development Scheme. Both documents support the recently adopted County Durham Plan.

The Plan is a comprehensive document covering all aspects of planning however it only includes strategic policies and allocations relating to minerals and waste. There is a need to supplement those policies with more detailed development management policies and non-strategic site allocations. Once adopted, the Minerals and Waste Policies and Allocations Development Plan Document (M&WDPD) will replace the saved policies currently being used from

the Minerals Local Plan (2000) and Waste Local Plan (2005). In order to provide more detailed advice or guidance on policies in the County Durham Plan, Government guidance allows the preparation of supplementary planning documents (SPDs). SPDs are capable of being a material consideration in planning decisions but are not part of the development plan. One SPD that is specifically mentioned in the County Durham Plan is the Parking and Accessibility SPD. It is therefore proposed to begin work on this SPD but there will be others prepared in the near future including Developer Contributions, Hot Food Takeaways, Accessible and Adaptable Homes and Design Principles SPDs.

Work will also be commencing on a number of development briefs and masterplans for many of the allocations in the Plan as well as an update to the Durham City Sustainable Transport Delivery Plan.

Decision

We agreed

- (a) the Local Development Scheme and delegated to the Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy and Growth in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economic Regeneration, the power to add further Supplementary Planning Documents and their timetables when known;
- (b) the scoping letter for the Minerals and Waste Policies and Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD) and 'Call for Sites' document for consultation from 15 January to 26 February 2021. Agreed to delegate to the Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy and Growth in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economic Regeneration, the power to agree the consultation draft DPD for a future consultation; and
- (c) the County Durham Parking and Accessibility Supplementary Planning Document Issues and Options document for consultation from 15 January to 26 February 2021. Agreed to delegate to the Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy and Growth in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economic Regeneration, the power to make minor modifications to the document following consultation for a future second round of consultation.

**2. Transport Asset Management Plan – Annual Update
Cabinet Portfolio Holder – Cllr Brian Stephens
Contact – Brian Buckley 03000 268 166**

We considered a report of the Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods and Climate Change which provided an annual update on the Transport Asset Management Plan (TAMP).

The TAMP was set out in full in the appendices to the report, section one being the policy which set out the principles of TAMP, and, section two being an annual update report. The TAMP sets out the long-term plan for managing the highway asset so that the condition is maximised for the available budget. The report highlighted the substantial investment by the Council which had contributed to the reduction in the maintenance backlog over the past year.

Like most Highway Authorities, the Council has a highways maintenance backlog and faces considerable challenges to maintain the condition of the highway network. The TAMP demonstrates that work is progressing well in helping to maximise the condition of the highway for the available budget. The Council has been steadily increasing its own investment and has also been proactive in attracting considerable funding from the Department for Transport (DfT). The TAMP, together with the top efficiency rating will ensure that it is well placed to maximise the much needed funding from the DfT going forward.

Decision

We approved the annual update report and noted the substantial investment in programmed capital maintenance and the ongoing work to maximise funding going forward.